

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

By means of the present Amendment, claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-11, and 14 have been cancelled. Additionally, the limitations of claims 4 and 5 have been incorporated into claim 12. Thus, only claims 3, 6, 12, and 13 are now pending, of which only claim 1 is independent.

In the Office Action dated December 2, 2004, the Examiner rejected all of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the English abstracts of JP 10-017,997 (JP '997) or JP 10-060,528 (JP '528). According to the Examiner, these references disclose an iron-nickel alloy with constituents whose wt % ranges overlap those recited by the claims, such overlap rendering applicants' composition prima facie obvious despite differences in non-overlapping areas. However, it is noted that claim 12 is now directed to a shadow mask of screens and monitors which is made from the specified alloy. Aside from the constituents of this alloy, claim 12 also recites that the alloy has a coefficient of thermal expansion less than  $1.6 \times 10^{-6}/K$  in a temperature range of 20°-100°C.

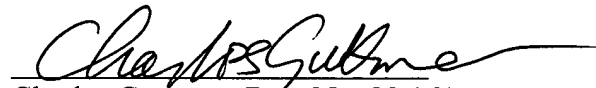
It is submitted that neither JP '528 nor JP '997 discloses or suggests a shadow mask made from a creep-resistant iron-nickel alloy of the specified composition and having the specified coefficient of thermal expansion in the specified temperature range.

Neither of these references discloses or suggests this specific combination of limitations to provide a suitable shadow mask.

Accordingly, it is believed that the shadow mask specified in claim 12, as amended herein, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by any combination of the prior art of record. As the other claims depend from claim 12, they too are not anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art of record.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance and a favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,



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